

FISCAL NOTE

HB 2546 – SB 2609

March 5, 2006

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the State Board of Education to promulgate rules governing the transportation of students to extracurricular activities in motor vehicles maintained by local education agencies (LEAs) and inspected by the Department of Safety.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase Local Govt. Expenditures – Not Significant

Assumptions:

- The inspection of approved vehicles used in school transportation is currently being done by the Department of Safety at no cost to the LEAs.
- Present law requires the State Board of Education to promulgate rules governing school transportation, including extracurricular activities in motor vehicles maintained by an LEA. SBE Rule 0520-1-5-.02 requires all school buses purchased by a county, local school system, or private contractor to meet the Tennessee Minimum School Bus Standards approved by the State Board and all applicable federal motor vehicle safety standards.
- T.C.A. 49-6-2115 requires compliance with federal minimum school bus and vehicle standards.
- Title 49 United States Code Section 30112(a) effective August 10, 2005, prohibits a school from the purchase or lease of a new 15-passenger van if it is to be used primarily to transport students to or from school or an event related to school, unless such van complies with the motor vehicle standards prescribed for school buses and multifunction school activity buses under this title.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



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James W. White, Executive Director